

Attorney Docket No.: 10508.204-US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: De Maria et al.

Confirmation No: TBA

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: TBA

Filed: April 3, 2006

Examiner: TBA

For: Protease Variants

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Before examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks and arguments begin on page 9 of this document.